

From: silvanaplumber@gmail.com <silvanaplumber@gmail.com>

Sent: Thursday, March 10, 2022 8:04 AM

To: DES SBCC <sbcc@des.wa.gov>

Subject: Proposal to ban Natural Gas

Members of the State Building Code Council,

We are writing to voice opposition to proposals that would ban Natural Gas as an approved Energy Source in the State of Washington.

We are Plumbing Contractors in Snohomish County and work with customers who have electricity, natural gas and/or propane sources of energy in their homes. We have found in our over 40 years of serving our customers that one energy source does not fit all needs.

We also work with restaurants, beauty salons, and many other businesses. Our customers want a choice of the energy source they will have for their homes and businesses.

- With water heaters, for example, one kind of energy source does not fit all. Restaurants, salons, medical offices and others need quick recovery for their hot water source. Electricity is not fast recovery.
- Natural gas is a clean energy source. Europe had no problem designating natural gas as a "Clean" energy source.
- Eliminating any one source of energy will cause a rise in prices by reducing competition and potentially create demand problems. Haven't we learned from the COVID impact on our supply chains?
- Now with a war going on which may escalate even further, eliminating an energy source would seem to be poor policy.
- Consumers will find themselves with higher energy costs in the long run. We and our customers won't be happy.
- Housing prices are already prohibitive to many. Pricing homes even higher will ensure that potential buyers will have to wait even longer, if ever, to qualify.

Please consider these points carefully when deciding on this or similar proposals. However, well intentioned, there are other ways to better accomplish energy goals.

Incentives to choose clean energy, incentives to develop high efficiency equipment to burn other energy sources besides electricity, etc. will allow consumers to have a choice, keep prices lower, and prevent over-demand of any one energy source.

Thank you.

Tim and Maria Carr
Silvana Plumbing LLC
360-652-8500
[*silvanaplumber@gmail.com*](mailto:silvanaplumber@gmail.com)

For best service with scheduling needs and questions, please call the main office number above.